

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1718

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY QUITO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO J2 QUARRY CZ IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS LA PAZ 5709

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, BL

SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ANNULLED

REF: LA PAZ 5699 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: ACTING ON THE JULY 19 REQUEST OF GENERAL JUAN PEREDA, THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COURT NULLIFIED THAT SAME EVENING THE GENERAL ELECTIONS OF JULY 9 AND PROPOSED THAT NEW GENERAL ELECTIONS BE HELD WITHIN 180 DAYS. THE NEC ALSO PROPOSED THE REVISION OF THE ELECTORAL LAW TO INCLUDE THE USE OF THE SINGLE BALLOT AND PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION. END SUMMARY.

2. REACTING QUICKLY TO JUAN PEREDA'S JULY 19 REQUEST (TEXT TO FOLLOW SEPTTEL) THAT THE BOLIVIAN NATIONAL ELECTIONS OF JULY 9 BE ANNULLED, THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COURT THAT SAME EVENING COMPLETELY INVALIDATED THE ELECTION RESULTS OF JULY 9. THE OTHER MAJOR PARTIES HAD, IN EFFECT, PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED ANNULMENT. A PARTIAL TEST OF THE NEC STATEMENT FOLLOWS:
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3. " HAVING SEEN THE PETITIONS PRESENTED ON ONE SIDE BY THE CANDIDATE JUAN PEREDA ASBUN AND ON THE OTHER SIDE BY HERNAN SILES ZUAZO, BENJAMIN MIGUEL HARB AND VICTOR PAZ ESTENSSORO AND CONSIDERING THAT JUAN PEREDA IN HIS PETITION PRESENTED TO A PUBLIC MEETING TODAY SAID 'ACCORDING TO THE MAJORITY WILL OF THE PUBLIC HE IS PRESIDENT-ELECT AND ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF

THE VOTE COUNTS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENTAL COURTS. DESPITE THIS POSITIVE RESULT FOR HIS CANDIDACY, FOR PATRIOTIC REASONS AND FOR THE SOCIAL PEACE WHICH THE NATION NEEDS TO REACH ITS FULL DEVELOPMENT AND FACE UNITED THE JUST DEMANDS FOR ITS SOVEREIGN RIGHT TO HAVE AN OUTLET TO THE SEA ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNJUST WAR OF 1879' HE PROPOSES AND REQUESTS THE ANNULMENT OF THE ELCTION PROCESS IN ORDER TO IMPLEMENT A NEW PLAN OF DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTIONALIZATION WHICH, CONSIDERING THE NEW CONDITIONS, WILL OFFER THE TIME AND THE MEANS NECESSARY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ANALYZE AND CONTRAST THE POLITICAL OPTIONS PRESENTED TO THEM.

4. "AND CONSIDERING THAT IN PETITIONS PRESENTED JOINTLY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FUDP (SILES), PDC (BERNAL), AND ADRN (PAZ) DEMANDING THE ENJOINING OF THE DEPARTMENTAL ELECTORAL COURT OF LA PAZ AND REQUESTING THAT 'NEW COMPUTATIONS BE MADE ACCORDING TO LAW,' THE ANNULMENT OF 359 TABLES, ILLEGALLY CREATED, AND THE INVALIDATION OF VOTES CREDITED UNJUSTLY FOR THE OFFICIAL CANDIDATE, THEY RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REQUEST THE ANNULMENT OF THE GENERAL ELECTIONS OF JULY 9 BECAUSE OF FRAUD AND IRREGULARITIES REPEATEDLY DENOUNCED BY THEIR ORGANIZATIONS AND FOREIGN OBSERVERS.'

5. "AND CONSIDERING THAT THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COURT RESOLUTION OF JULY 18, WHICH REAFFIRMED THE PRINCIPLES OF LEGALITY, INDEPENDENCE AND LIBERTY, AND, IN THE FACE OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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ACCUSATIONS OF VIOLATIONS OF TH ELECTORAL LAW WHICH RESOLVED TO LEAVE PENDING THE DECLARATION OF WINNERS FOR DEPUTIES AND SENATORS, THUS TAKING NOTICE OF THE ANNULMENTS PROPOSED BY THE POLITICAL PARTIES; WAS NOT ADEQUATELY RESPONDED TO BY THE POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS,

6. "AND THAT A CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF THE PROPOSALS, ACCUSATIONS AND PETITIONS OF THE UNP, FUDP, PDC, ADRN AND OTHER PARTISAN ORGANIZATIONS MAKES CLEAR THE EXISTENCE OF IRREGULARITIES THAT NOT ONLY ARE CHARACTERISTIC OF THE POST ELECTION VOTE COUNTING, BUT ALSO OF THE PRE-ELECTORAL AND ELECTORAL STAGES, SUCH AS THE NON-USE OF THE MULTI-COLOR AND MULTI-SYMBOL BALLOT AND OF THE SYSTEM OF PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION AND OF THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE GROUPS AND OF THE DENUNCIATIONS REGARDING THE CREATION OF ELECTION STATIONS, AND OF OTHER ACTIONS WHICH DEMONSTRATE THE COMMISSION OF ACTIONS WHICH IN THE LIGHT OF SERENCE AND IMPARTIAL COMPARISON OF ASPECTS OF THE JUDICIAL ORDER BRING US TO THE ASSURED CONCLUSION THAT THE ERRORS REGARDING THE VALIDITY OF THE ELECTIONS ARE NOT CHARACTERISTIC OF ONLY ONE OF THE PHASES, BUT RATHER OF THE ENTIRE ELECTORAL PROCESS TO AN EXTENT THAT ITS VALIDATION WOULD CONSTITUTE AN

UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT IN THE HISTORY OF BOLIVIA AND WOULD DETRACT FROM THE HIGH MISSION THAT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE ANTIONAL ELECTORAL COURT OF LEADING THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AS A DEMONSTRATION OF PROPRIETY FOR FUTURE ELECTORAL EVENTS.

7. "THAT OF THE FOUR GROUPS THAT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE ELECTION PROCESS--THE GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL PARTIES, THE PUBLIC AND THE ELECTORAL ORGANIZATIONS--THE CITIZENRY HAS DEMONSTRATED WITH ABSOLUTE CLARITY ITS DEMOCRATIC INCLINATION AND ITS DECISION TO ELECT THE POWERS OF STATE VIA THE BALLOT BOX.

8. "THAT THAT ATTITUDE MUST BE GUIDED ADEQUATELY AND QUICKLY IN NEW GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT GUARANTEE FULLY THE PURITY AND UNCLASSIFIED

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CORRECTNESS OF THE SOVEREIGN EXPRESSION OF THE PEOPLE WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF NEGATIVE FACTORS THAT TARNISH THE FORMATION OF AUTHENTIC DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATION.

9. "THEREFORE, THE NATIONAL ELECTORAL COURT UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVES TO (A) DECLARE THE TOTAL ANNULMENT OF THE GENERAL ELECTIONS HELD JULY 9, 1978 IN THE ENTIRE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC. (B) RECOMMEND THE CONVENING OF NEW GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND FOR NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES IN A PERIOD THAT DOES NOT EXCEED 180 DAYS. (C) TO PROPOSE THE REVISION OF THE EXISTING ELECTORAL LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF THE SINGLE MULTI-COLOR AND MULTI-SYMBOL BALLOT, THE SYSTEM OF PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION AND THE INTRODUCTION OF PROCEDURES MORE ADEQUATE AND APPROPRIATE FOR THE EXAMINATION OF AND COUNTING OF THE BALLOTS AND OTHER ELECTORAL PROCEDURES BASED ON THE EXPERIENCES ACQUIRED AND SUGGESTIONS OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES. (D) PROPOSE THE NECESSITY OF IMPLEMENTING A GENERAL LAW OF POLITICAL PARTIES FOR THE RESPONSIBLE ORGANIZATION OF THESE REPRESENTATIVE ENTITIES. (E) RECOMMEND THE APPLICATION OF A SINGLE PERSONAL IDENTITY DOCUMENT FOR THE ACOMPLISHMENT OF ELECTORAL RESPONSIBILITIES. (F) DECLARE TERMINATED THE FUNCTIONS OF THIS NATIONAL ELECTORAL COURT AND OF ITS DEPENDENT ORGANS ONCE ITS DUTIES OF COUNTING THE BALLOTS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED BY AUGUST 30, 1978."

10. COMPLETE TEXT OF NEC DECLARATION BEING POUCHED.
BOEKER

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NNN

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